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Following the 17 June demonstrations in Germany, Soviet authorities deported some Germans to the Soviet Union via Brest-Litovsk. It was learned that a train with prisoners, heavily guarded by Russian soldiers, passed through Poznan, Poland, on 24-25 June 1953. The trains included about 700 to 1,000 persons. On every second carriage, two Soviet soldiers rode on the steps of the carriage, one on each side of the carriage. The carriages were furnished with reflectors which were fixed on either side of the roof. They were powered by a special generator in one of the carriages. Under each carriage was an iron net which came down to about 20 centimeters from the ground, so that if any one of the prisoners managed to make a hole in the floor of one of the carriages he would be picked up in the net. On the last carriage, there was a Soviet soldier armed with a machine gun, watching for escapees through the back wall of the last carriage.

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